

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 168374
ORIGIN SS-25

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APPROVED BY STR:RSTRAUSS
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-----120407 192206Z /70

O 192154Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR GARDNER

E.O. 11652:

TAGS:

SUBJECT: MTN-BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH ITALIANS

REF. EC BRUSSELS 07761

FOR AMBASSADOR GARDNER

1. OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH EC COMMISSION LEADERS ON JULY 11 OFFER AN OPPORTUNITY TO UNBLOCK THE MTN. I KNOW THAT THE COMMISSION MUST SECURE THE SUPPORT OR AT LEAST ACQUIESCENCE OF THE MEMBER STATES IN ORDER TO MOVE AHEAD ON THE BASIS OF THE AMBITIOUS TIMETABLE AND SUBSTANTIVE UNDERSTANDINGS OUTLINED REFTEL. I ALSO KNOW IT AS PRIMARILY THE COMMISSION'S RESPONSIBILITY TO SELL THE PLAN TO THE MEMBER STATES AND THAT AN EC COUNCIL
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MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 25 FOR THIS PURPOSE.

2. I BELIEVE WE CAN HELP THE PROCESS ALONG. ACCORDINGLY, I HAVE SENT AMBASSADOR ALAN WOLFF AND STR GENERAL COUNSEL RICHARD RIVERS TO CONSULT WITH TOP BRITISH OFFICIALS ON MONDAY, JULY 18, WITH TOP GERMAN OFFICIALS ON TUESDAY, JULY 19, AND TOP FRENCH OFFICIALS ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 20. I

HAVE ASKED RICHARD RIVERS TO BE READY TO CONSULT WITH TOP

ITALIAN OFFICIALS ON JULY 21, IF YOU ARE ABLE ON THIS SHORT NOTICE TO ARRANGE SUITABLE APPOINTMENTS FOR HIM (INCLUDING OFFICIALS OF THE AGRICULTURAL MINISTRY WHO WILL DECIDE ON POSITIONS TO BE TAKEN BY ITALY AT THE JULY 25 EC COUNCIL MEETING). IF LEADING ITALIAN OFFICIALS CAN HEAR OUR INTENTIONS DIRECTLY FROM GENERAL COUNSEL RIVERS, THE POSSIBILITY OF MISUNDERSTANDINGS MAY BE REDUCED.

3. PLEASE REPLY ASAP AS TO FEASIBILITY OF REACHING APPROPRIATE LEVELS OF KEY DECISIONMAKERS ON DATE PROPOSED.

4. SUGGEST YOU ALSO NOTIFY RIVERS DIRECTLY THROUGH U.S. EMBASSY PARIS BY JULY 20. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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